GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2485
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2015
Expenditure on Education
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

a) the expenditure on education in the country as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at present;

(b) whether the Government proposes to raise public spending in education to the desired level of percentage of GDP;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government has urged the State Governments to increase funds allocation for education in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c) : As per the data available with the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, the expenditure on education in India as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was 4.44% (provisional) during 2013-14. The National Policy on Education, 1986 as modified in 1992 has laid down that the investment on education be gradually increased to reach a level of 6% of the National Income as early as possible.

Ministry of Human Resource Development was allocated a plan allocation of Rs.4,53,728 crore (Rs.3,43,028 crore for the Department of School Education & Literacy and Rs.1,10,700 crore for the Department of Higher Education) during the XII Five Year Plan which is almost 2.5 times of the expenditure (Rs.1,77,550 crore) during XI Five Year Plan. This increase in Central Plan Outlay for education represents a very substantial effort on the part of the Central Government for raising public spending on education towards the goal of spending 6% of GDP for education.

(d) & (e): To encourage expenditure by the States, several schemes have been launched during XI Plan & XII Plan such as (i) Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) to enhance access to secondary education and improve its quality (ii) Construction and running of girls hostels for students of secondary and higher secondary schools (iii) Setting up of 374 new model degree colleges (iv) Incentivising State Governments for expansion, inclusion & excellence (v) Special assistance to upgrade institutions which could not get assistance under Section 12B of UGC Act (vi) National Mission in Education through ICT and National Vocational Education Qualification Framework. Also through devolution of significantly higher and additional resources under the 14th Finance Commission, States have been empowered and enabled to expend more resources on priority sectors such as education.
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